

**Table B-17. Future plans for highest degree expected among science and engineering bachelor's degree recipients in 1997 and 1998, by major field of degree: April 1999**

Major field of 1997-98 S&E bachelor's degree	Total recipients	Future plans for highest degree expected			
		Bachelor's degree	Master's degree	Doctorate	Professional
All science and engineering fields.....	743,400	55,700	401,900	191,200	91,500
Total science.....	628,800	46,000	319,900	171,400	88,800
Computer and information sciences.....	46,000	6,000	29,700	9,700	S
Life and related sciences, total.....	164,000	11,400	66,600	45,700	39,000
Agricultural and food sciences.....	15,700	3,700	7,700	2,800	S
Biological sciences.....	134,900	6,300	51,000	40,000	36,400
Environmental life sciences including forestry science.....	13,500	S	7,900	2,800	S
Mathematical and related sciences.....	23,700	2,100	14,400	6,400	S
Physical and related sciences, total.....	36,500	2,200	16,300	14,200	3,800
Chemistry, except biochemistry.....	20,100	S	8,000	7,600	3,400
Earth sciences, geology, and oceanography.....	8,700	900	5,100	2,500	S
Physics and astronomy.....	7,200	S	2,900	3,900	S
Other physical sciences.....	600	S	S	S	S
Psychology.....	146,700	7,400	77,500	50,900	10,600
Social and related sciences, total.....	211,800	16,900	115,300	44,500	34,400
Economics.....	32,700	S	22,900	4,400	3,000
Political science and related sciences.....	71,700	3,300	30,800	15,100	22,000
Sociology and anthropology.....	69,500	8,400	38,300	16,500	6,300
Other social sciences.....	37,900	2,900	23,300	8,600	3,100
Total engineering.....	114,600	9,800	82,100	19,800	2,700
Aerospace and related engineering.....	2,400	S	1,600	700	S
Chemical engineering.....	12,400	1,000	7,700	2,900	800
Civil and architectural engineering.....	20,200	2,800	14,700	2,300	S
Electrical, electronic, computer and communications engineering.....	34,200	2,300	24,600	6,900	S
Industrial engineering.....	6,000	S	4,800	900	S
Mechanical engineering.....	26,300	2,200	20,100	3,400	S
Other engineering.....	13,200	1,100	8,700	2,700	S

**KEY:** S = Data with weighted values less than 100 or unweighted sample sizes less than 20 are suppressed for reasons of data reliability.

**NOTES:** Details may not add to totals because of rounding and because a small number of graduates who reported their highest expected degree as "other" are excluded.

These estimates of 1997 and 1998 college graduates are obtained from a sample survey of individuals receiving bachelor's or master's degrees in science or engineering fields and may differ from degree counts presented in other SRS publications.

**SOURCE:** National Science Foundation/Division of Science Resources Statistics, National Survey of Recent College Graduates, 1999